

Docket No.: 114703.100

1653-TT
45-00
PATENT #6/A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Brian HAARER, et al.

Serial No.: 09/253,788

Group Art Unit: 1653

Filed: February 23, 1999

Examiner: Kenneth R. Horlick

For: **DNA ADDITIVES AS A MECHANISM FOR UNAMBIGUOUSLY
MARKING BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES**

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 29 2000

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 27, 1999 having a three month shortened statutory period of response set to expire March 27, 2000. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A process for marking biological samples used in subsequent nucleic acid analysis comprising:

collecting at least one known biological sample;

introducing at least one fragment of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) of known length and sequence into the known biological sample[s] wherein said DNA fragment tags or marks the biological sample, and wherein said DNA fragment does not interfere with subsequent nucleic acid analysis of the biological sample.

2. (Amended) The process for marking biological samples used in subsequent nucleic acid analysis of claim 1, wherein introducing at least one fragment of DNA further comprises: